

DOCKET NO.219594US0

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
Fabrice BALAVOINE : GROUP ART UNIT:  
SERIAL NO.: New Application :  
FILED: Herewith : EXAMINER:

FOR: METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-AMINO ACID USING BACTERIA BELONGING  
TO THE GENUS ESCHERICHIA

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination on the merits please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 35, line 16, of the specification with the following paragraph:

--The strain VL2054 has been deposited in the Russian National Collection of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM) (Russia 113545, Moscow, 1 Dorozhny proezd, 1) on January 30, 2001 under accession number VKPM B-8067, and transferred from the original deposit to international deposit based on Budapest Treaty on February 1, 2002. --

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 37, line 9, of the specification with the following paragraph:

--The valine producing strain H-81 was transformed by the plasmid pYGZH carrying the b2682 and b2683 genes under the control of the P<sub>lac</sub> UV5 promoter. The strain H-81 has been deposited in the Russian National Collection of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM) (Russia 113545, Moscow, 1 Dorozhny proezd, 1) on January 30, 2001 under accession number

VKPM B-8066, and transferred from the original deposit to international deposit based on the Budapest Treaty on February 1, 2002. --

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 43, line 21, of the specification with the following paragraph:

--The strain *E. coli* 505 has been deposited in the Russian National Collection of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM) (Russia 113545, Moscow, 1 Dorozhny proezd, 1) on May 14, 2001 under accession number VKPM B- 8124, and transferred from the original deposit to international deposit based on the Budapest Treaty on February 1, 2002.—

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 46, line 24, of the specification with the following paragraph:

--The strain 218 has been deposited in the Russian National Collection of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM) (Russia 113545, Moscow 1, Dorozhny proezd, 1) under the accession number VKPM B-8125 since May 14, 2001, and transferred from the original deposit to international deposit based on the Budapest Treaty on February 1, 2002. --

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 47, line 11, of the specification with the following paragraph:

--The strain *E. coli* 73 has been deposited in the Russian National Collection of Industrial Microorganisms (VKPM) (Russia 113545, Moscow 1, Dorozhny proezd, 1) on May 14, 2001 under accession number VKPM B-8126, and transferred from the original deposit to international deposit based on the Budapest Treaty on February 1, 2002. --

On page 56 of the specification, after Table 11, please insert:

--Modifications and other embodiments

Various modifications and variations of the described products, compositions and methods as well as the concept of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention. Although the invention has been described in connection with specific preferred embodiments, it should be understood that the invention as claimed is not intended to be limited to such specific embodiments. Various modifications of the

described modes for carrying out the invention which are obvious to those skilled in the biochemical, chemical, chemical engineering, molecular biological, medical, or pharmacological arts or related fields are intended to be within the scope of the following claims.

#### Incorporation by Reference

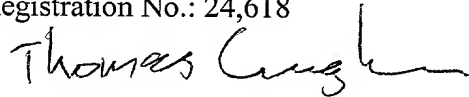
Each document, patent application or patent publication cited by or referred to in this disclosure is incorporated by reference in its entirety. Any patent document to which this application claims priority is also incorporated by reference in its entirety. Specifically, priority documents Russian Patent Application No. 2001103865, filed February 13, 2001; Russian Patent Application No. 2001104998, filed February 26, 2001; Russian Patent Application No. 2001104999, filed February 26, 2001; Russian Patent Application 2001117632, filed June 28, 2001; and Russian Patent Application No. 2001117633, filed June 28, 2001 are hereby incorporated by reference.—

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending. Applicants provide herewith copies of deposit receipts for VKPM B-8066, 8067, 8124, 8125, and 8126 and have amended the specification to recite specific deposit dates. This preliminary is being filed along with the original specification and claims and should be considered part of the original disclosure. An oath/declaration referring to this preliminary amendment will be filed in due course. Applicants now respectfully request early examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,  
OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Norman F. Oblon  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No.: 24,618



Thomas M. Cunningham, Ph.D.  
Registration No.: 45,394

NFO:TMC:mb

PHONE NO.: (703) 413-3000  
FAX NO.: (703) 413-2220



22850

<b>Marked-Up Copy</b> Serial No: New Application Preliminary Amendment Filed Herewith
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Incorporation by Reference

Each document, patent application or patent publication cited by or referred to in this disclosure is incorporated by reference in its entirety. Any patent document to which this application claims priority is also incorporated by reference in its entirety. Specifically, priority documents Russian Patent Application No. 2001103865, filed February 13, 2001; Russian Patent

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